

### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for treating an organic exhaust gas comprising:

- generating an organic exhaust gas containing a harmful substance;
- providing a treating liquid;
- contacting the organic exhaust gas with the treating liquid so as to dissolve the harmful substance into the treating liquid; and
- contacting bacteria with the treating ~~[[gas]]~~ liquid containing the harmful substance so that the harmful substance is biochemically degraded.

Claim 2 (Original): A method for treating an organic exhaust gas according to claim 1, wherein the bacteria are aquatic microbes.

Claim 3 (Original): A method for treating an organic exhaust gas according to claim 1, wherein the bacteria are selected from a group consisting of genus Zoogloea, genus Bacillus and genus Pseudomonas.

Claim 4 (Original): A method for treating an organic exhaust gas according to claim 1, further comprising contacting the liquid-contacted organic exhaust gas with an active carbon so as to adsorb the harmful substance to the active carbon.

Claim 5 (Original): A method for treating an organic exhaust gas according to claim 1, wherein the treating liquid is circulated only in a system for treating an organic exhaust gas comprising at least the gas-liquid contact process and the biochemical degradation process.

Claims 6-9 (Canceled)

Claim 10 (New): A method for eliminating a harmful substance from an organic exhaust gas, comprising:

- providing the organic exhaust gas including the harmful substance;
- contacting the organic exhaust gas with a treating liquid so as to dissolve the harmful substance into the treating liquid;
- preparing carriers supporting bacteria; and
- contacting the carriers with the treating liquid containing the harmful substance so that the harmful substance is biochemically degraded by the bacteria supported by the carriers.

Claim 11 (New): A method for eliminating a harmful substance according to claim 10, wherein the bacteria are aquatic microbes.

Claim 12 (New): A method for eliminating a harmful substance according to claim 10, wherein the bacteria are selected from a group consisting of genus Zoogloea, genus Bacillus and genus Pseudomonas.

Claim 13 (New): A method for eliminating a harmful substance according to claim 10, further comprising contacting the liquid-contacted organic exhaust gas with an active carbon so as adsorb the harmful substance to the active carbon.

Claim 14 (New): A method for eliminating a harmful substance according to claim 10, wherein the treating liquid is circulated only in a system for treating an organic exhaust gas comprising at least the gas-liquid contact process and the biochemical degradation process.